

## 2006 National Awards Nomination Information



Presented annually, the National Take Pride in America® Awards recognize individuals and public and private groups for outstanding stewardship projects or awareness efforts involving federal, state, local and Indian lands, waters and cultural resources. Finalists and winners are chosen by a selection committee, and the winners are honored at an awards ceremony in Washington, DC.

Nominated projects and efforts must embody the goals of Take Pride in America, which are to:

- Instill in the public the importance of the appropriate use of and appreciation for federal, state and local lands, facilities, and natural and cultural resources; and
- Encourage an attitude of stewardship and responsibility toward these lands, facilities, and natural and cultural resources.

### **Categories**

*Individual* – This award is given to an individual for a project or on-going commitment that best supports the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

*School Program* – This award is given to school programs that best exemplify creativity and ingenuity in carrying out the goals and mission of Take Pride in America. Categories include: Elementary (K-6), Secondary (7-12), and Post-Secondary (College).

*State Event/Program* – This award is presented to the state with the project or program that best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

*Outstanding Take Pride Supporter* – This award is presented to a Take Pride partner for its outstanding efforts in promoting the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

*Federal Land Managers* – This award is presented to the federal land manager who, in the spirit of Take Pride in America, has the most innovative and creative approach to using volunteers.

*Corporation or Business* – This award is presented to the corporation or business whose volunteer event best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

*Non-profit Organization* – This award is presented to the 501(c)(3) organization whose volunteer event best promotes the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

*Faith Based Group* – This award is presented to a faith-based group for exemplifying and promoting the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

*Federal Volunteer Event/Program* – This award is presented to a program or project hosted by a federal agency partnering with Take Pride in America.

*Local Government Event/Program* – This award is presented to a city that most exemplifies the mission of Take Pride in America by encouraging volunteerism on local public lands.

*Youth/Youth Group* – This award is presented to an individual or group of people under the age of 18 whose project or on-going commitment best supports the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

*Public/Private Partnership* – This award is presented to the partnership project or on-going volunteer stewardship commitment between a government agency and a private business or corporation, youth, civic or non-profit organization that best meets the goals and mission of Take Pride in America.

### **General Eligibility**

The awards program is open to individuals and public and private groups that have contributed to the protection or enhancement of America's public lands, including public parks, forests, grasslands, reservoirs, wildlife refuges, cultural and historic sites, local playgrounds, and other recreation areas.

For all award categories, nominations must reflect actual, measurable accomplishments achieved through volunteer service. To be

eligible, projects must be “on the ground” activities, rather than advocacy in any form.

**Nominated projects and efforts must have been started and/or completed between June 5, 2005 and June 4, 2006. Nominations close June 16, 2006.**

#### **Nomination Process**

All nominations for the Take Pride in America Awards must be submitted by **5:00 PM EST on June 16, 2006**.

Nominations may be submitted online or via fax. For a nomination form, visit [www.TakePride.gov](http://www.TakePride.gov) or call (202) 208-5848. The nomination period closes on **June 16, 2006 at 5:00 PM EST**. To submit a nomination by fax, send it to (202) 208-5873.

Nominations may be submitted by any person familiar with the nominee and his or her work; self-nominations will also be accepted.

Each nomination may be submitted for only one category. The selection committee reserves the right to consider all nominations for alternative award categories.

If you are submitting a team nomination, please select one member as “team lead.” For the Last Name field, enter the lead’s last name and add “(team lead)”. [For example, Last Name: Smith (team lead).] Please include the official team name in the nomination and provide a brief statement on the team’s accomplishments.

Upon completion of the online nomination form, the nominator will receive an email confirming receipt of the nomination.

Confirmation of nominations sent via fax will be done by the Take Pride in America staff.

#### **Selection Process and Awards Ceremony**

Nomination packages will be reviewed by Take Pride in America staff and a selection committee appointed by the Take Pride in America staff.

All nominators will be notified of winner selection no later than August 31, 2006

Recipients of the 2006 National Take Pride in America Awards will be honored at an awards ceremony in Washington, DC later this fall. (Take Pride in America does not provide travel, room and board.)